

REMARKS

Applicants cancel claim 16. Claim 13 has previously been canceled. Claims 1-12 and 14-15 remain pending in the application. Applicants amend claims 1 and 14-15 to incorporate features that correspond to those of claim 16. No new matter has been added.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's finding that claim 16 contains allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants amend independent claims 1 and 14-15 to incorporate features corresponding thereto.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,896,391 to Solheim et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,602,879 to Wada; claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,538,786 to Naito in view of Solheim et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,516,083 to Turney; claims 1-2 and 5-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Solheim et al. in view of Turney, and further in view of Wada; claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Solheim et al., Turney, Wada, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,741,668 to Nakamura; and claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Solheim et al., Turney, Wada, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,625,180 to Itaya et al.

Again, Applicants amend base claims 1 and 14-15 to incorporate features that correspond to claim 16, which the Examiner deemed to contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner allow claims 1 and 14-15, together with claims 2-12 dependent from claim 1.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully

requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

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